

Claims

We claim:

1. A computer readable medium having a data structure thereon for storing an object, said data structure comprising:

a first portion having a table, said table having blocks storing properties;

a second portion having an item, said item having an index that references one of said blocks.

2. The computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said object is an ink object.

3. The computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said object is a text object or a graphical object.

4. The computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said blocks have entries, said entries having at least one property.

5. The computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said item is an ink stroke.

6. The computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said data structure includes plural items, wherein the number of said plural items is greater than indices in said second portion.

7. A method for creating a data structure for storing ink comprising the steps of:
receiving at least one stroke;
creating a table of at least one property block;

associating an index with said at least one stroke, said at least one stroke including an index to said at least one property block.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

ordering said at least one stroke with other strokes and said index so as to minimize the size of said data structure.

9. A method for reading a data structure comprising the steps of:

reading a data structure;

determining if said data structure includes an index;

associating a property block referenced by said index with an item.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein said item is an ink stroke.

11. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

associating a default property with another item.

12. A system for creating a data structure comprising:

a processor; and,

a storage,

said processor organizing an input item with a property and storing said input item with said property in a data structure in said storage.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein said data structure contains an index and a property block.

14. A system for reading a data structure comprising:

a storage having said data structure, said data structure including an item, a property stored in a property block and an index;

a processor; and

an output for outputting said item with said property,

wherein said processor associates said item and said property through the reference to
said property block by said index.